

Storage Safety

Things to consider when choosing a self-storage facility

Is the storage facility secured?

Many storage facilities are gated and offer keypad entry systems. A



storage facility without any gates or fencing is completely exposed from all sides and can be easily noticed by thieves.

Does the storage facility have video surveillance?

Cameras installed at the main gate and throughout a storage facility campus can go a long way in deterring thieves.

Check out whether there is staff that resides premises round the clock.

Many units deploy guards for added security. In some units, there is a property manager present on site. Never rent from facilities that become deserted once you secure the lock.

Is the storage facility properly lit? Make sure the premises are appropriately lit. This helps in the monitoring of every nook and corner and does not leave any scope for burglars to take advantage of the darkness.

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www.wdm-ia.com



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Courtesy of the:



For more safety information:
www.wdm-ia.com

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What types of crimes occur in storage facilities?

Most people view storage facilities as merely an extension of their home or business, criminals see these properties as opportunities for theft, illegal storage, drug related activity, or a dump for illegal or hazardous materials. Here are several ways storage facilities can be used in a criminal manner:

- Renting a unit to gain illegal access to the facility. The criminal can then break into other units and move
- Property to his/her own unit where it can be stolen.
- Piggybacking in on a legitimate tenant, breaking into units, storing stolen
- Property in an empty unit, and locking it with his/her own lock so the manager thinks the unit is rented.
- Storing stolen property, autos, or auto parts, drugs, explosive, biological, or other hazardous materials.
- Using a unit as a Meth lab or inexpensive hangout or crib for drugs and prostitution.

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Why are disc locks so Important?

Padlocks and combination locks can easily be compromised. In a few seconds an average person can bypass most locks.

Bolt cutters is just one tool that a criminal will use to cut through the shackle of just about any ordinary lock.



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Disc Locks

- Disc locks are made of case hardened steel. The shackle is heavy duty and is buried inside the lock when closed. This prevents cutting or prying.
- The tumbler and pins are on both sides of the lock for superior pick resistance. Which make them difficult to pick.
- Locks can have dimpled keys that cannot be duplicated
- Inexpensive and easy to obtain. The lock runs \$7-12 and provides excellent security. They can be found at any hardware or home improvement center. Most storage facilities also have them for sale.
- Disc locks are weather proof with drains to eliminate the collection of moisture.
- Cannot be closed without the key
- Must use extreme measures to remove without key (drill or torch)

